

OFFICE OF ILLINOIS STATE TREASURER

MICHAEL W. FRERICHS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 3, 2015

CONTACT:

Paris Ervin 217.524.5749

Illinois Treasurer Seeks to Reunite Southern Illinoisans with Assets, Wealth

\$42.5 million waiting to be claimed by residents of 31 counties

SPRINGFIELD – The Illinois State Treasurer's Office is searching for tens of thousands of Southern Illinois residents who have unclaimed property. Through the I-Cash program, the treasurer's office safeguards more than \$2.1 billion in unclaimed property belonging to millions of Illinois residents. Hundreds of thousands of new properties have been reported in recent months, including lost bank accounts, insurance policy proceeds, and utility refunds. Those new reports bring the total available to be claimed by residents of Alexander, Bond, Clay, Clinton, Crawford, Edwards, Effingham, Fayette, Franklin, Gallatin, Hamilton, Hardin, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Johnson, Lawrence, Marion, Massac, Perry, Pope, Pulaski, Randolph, Richland, Saline, Union, Wabash, Washington, Wayne, White, and Williamson counties to \$42,461,904 from 257,194 properties as of January.

"We want to return this property to its rightful owners," Illinois Treasurer Michael Frerichs said. "Whether it is a savings account someone started for you as a child, or U.S. savings bonds from World War II that your grandparents forgot about in a safe deposit box, the proper place for these items is with their rightful owners."

Starting April 5th, names of 78,895 individuals who have unclaimed property worth more than \$100 or stock, bonds, mutual funds, or safe deposit box contents that was reported over the past six months will be featured in newspapers ads across Illinois. Those listings represent a fraction of the 14 million properties reported since the program began in 1962 that are waiting to be claimed. All Illinoisans are encouraged to visit illinoistreasurer.gov to search for property and initiate a claim in as little as three minutes. Once the claim is filed with proof of ownership, individuals will receive their property in as little as three weeks. Last year, the average amount returned was \$1,000.

Hundreds of thousands of new properties are collected from businesses by the State Treasurer's I-Cash program each year, so residents are encouraged to check the State Treasurer's I-Cash database every six months. For more information about the State Treasurer's I-Cash program, visit illinoistreasurer.gov or call 217-785-6998.

Properties waiting to be claimed by county as of January 1, 2015:

County	# of Unclaimed Properties	Value of Unclaimed Cash
ALEXANDER	5,730	\$1,181,865
BOND	5,786	\$816,725
CLAY	4,257	\$623,074
CLINTON	9,474	\$1,069,360
CRAWFORD	7,227	\$1,402,613
EDWARDS	1,853	\$277,936
EFFINGHAM	11,745	\$1,547,711
FAYETTE	5,781	\$952,870
FRANKLIN	16,975	\$3,201,602
GALLATIN	2,202	\$622,016
HAMILTON	2,793	\$562,559
HARDIN	1,211	\$148,999
JACKSON	36,756	\$5,658,938
JASPER	2,762	\$337,741
JEFFERSON	15,771	\$2,557,801
JOHNSON	3,583	\$404,740
LAWRENCE	5,288	\$1,351,484
MARION	18,622	\$3,305,287
MASSAC	5,101	\$832,756
PERRY	7,358	\$1,137,745
POPE	1,143	\$123,037
PULASKI	3,256	\$632,025
RANDOLPH	10,868	\$1,860,482
RICHLAND	6,466	\$1,127,737
SALINE	11,323	\$1,905,850
UNION	6,678	\$1,035,970
WABASH	5,729	\$863,366
WASHINGTON	4,654	\$674,902
WAYNE	4,808	\$682,126
WHITE	5,661	\$967,989
WILLIAMSON	26,333	\$4,594,598
TOTAL	257,194	\$ 42,461,904